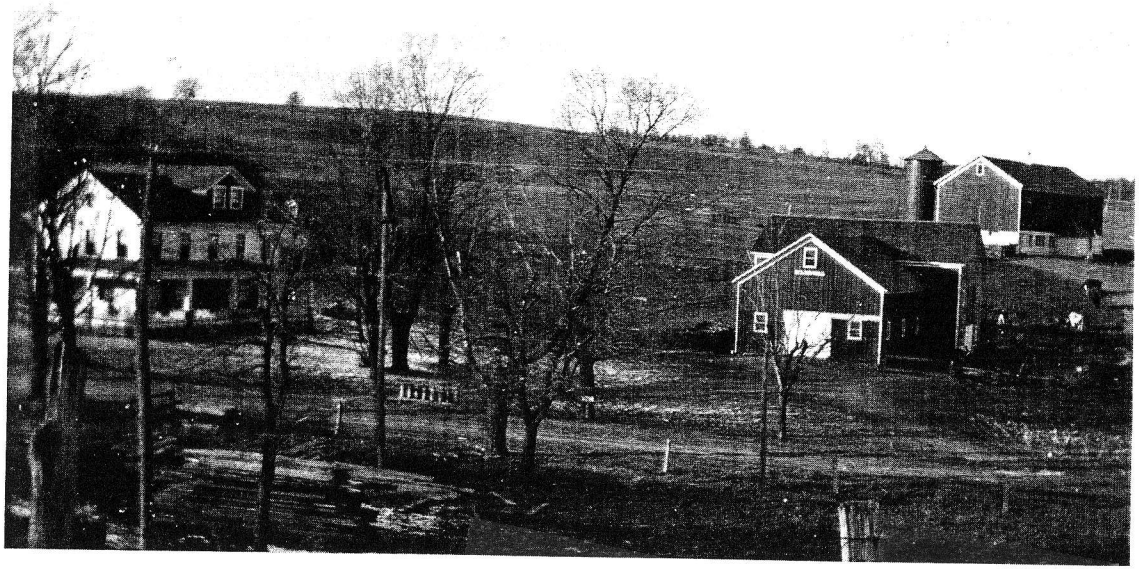

Dairy farms such as the James and Margaret Russell Homestead in Fell Township were at one time an important component of the local economy. This farm, which was transformed into the Homestead Golf Course in the 1960s, was one of the principal suppliers of milk to the Russell Dairy and the Russell Ice Cream Company, Carbondale. The farm was established by James Russell (1815-1872), a native of Scotland, in 1841. On New Year's Day, 1851, he married Margaret Gillespie Locke (1833-1904), also a native of Scotland. They were the parents of ten children. James Russell was not only a prosperous farmer and dairyman but also a coal dealer. In addition, he served as Justice of the Peace of Fell Township from 1851 to his death in 1872. On March 7, 1986, the James and Margaret Russell Homestead was designated a Pennsylvania Century Farm.

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